Job Title: **Estuarine Ecology Intern**

Location: Grand Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve (NERR), Moss Point, MS
Duration: 10-12 weeks, 40 hrs/week

Principal Responsibilities and Description:

The Estuarine Ecology intern will assist Stewardship staff with habitat mapping and estuarine monitoring efforts. A majority (75%) of time will be spent in the field performing vegetation surveys in support of groundtruthing for habitat mapping and assisting Stewardship staff with other field work including: erosion monitoring, biomass plots, surface elevation monitoring, ground water readings, emergent marsh monitoring, and other projects as assigned. The remaining time (25%) will be spent in the office assisting staff with biomass core lab work, habitat analysis using GIS software, managing GPS data, and general data entry. The Estuarine Ecology intern will gain understanding and skills in various habitat monitoring techniques and will gain experience using differential GPS equipment. Considerable outside work is involved with this position, often under extreme weather conditions, including extremes of heat, wind and rain. The position requires a fairly fit individual that can endure the rigors of physically challenging tasks often performed in harsh weather conditions.

Break down of duties:

Field (75%): Vegetation surveys, Surface Elevation Tables, Marker horizons, Erosion monitoring, Emergent marsh plots and Biomass plots

Office (25%): GIS Habitat analysis, Biomass lab work, GPS data QAQ and Data entry

Knowledge, Skills, and Abilities:

The ideal candidate will have previous coursework in botany, ecology, and wetlands. A successful candidate will have working knowledge of coastal Mississippi flora and fauna and basic scientific principles. Familiarity with boats and UTV's is desired. Previous experience with GPS equipment and ArcGIS is desired but not required.

Education Requirements:

Pursuing a Bachelor's Degree from an accredited four-year college or university in biology, marine science, botany, geography, ecology, environmental science, chemistry, forestry, wildlife biology, or a related field.